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L.A. MAYOR'S RACE: THE BRADLEY COALITION.

Editor's note: Here are some new developments in the April 20th election, plus a new poll to report...

● **GRIEGO ANNOUNCES** - As expected, L.A. Deputy Mayor Linda Griego formally entered the race Jan. 13 to replace outgoing Mayor Tom Bradley. Of interest to insiders is Griego's campaign team: Wendy Sherman has been hired to work on strategy; Doak, Shrum & Associates will handle media; and Greenberg/Lake will do polling. Consultant Barbara Johnson is the campaign chair...

...It's way too early to place Griego in either the top or second tier, but clearly she's going to have major backing. And that's what concerns frontrunning L.A. Councilman Michael Woo. Woo is vying to win over what's called "The Bradley Coalition," which takes in the Black, Jewish and liberal communities. Any rival who can cut into that coalition would tend to hurt Woo. That's why prominent black attorney Stan Sanders, and to a lesser extent, attorney Tom Houston, Bradley's ex top deputy, also present a problem for Woo...

● **KATZ FORMALIZES CANDIDACY** - Demo Assemblyman Richard Katz also formally declared his candidacy Jan. 12 with a news conference on the steps of City Hall - the Van Nuys branch...

● **NEW POLLING DATA** - Some interesting results from a poll paid for by Councilman Joel Wachs. The survey polled 808 high propensity L.A. voters between Dec. 18-21. NY-based Penn & Shoen conducted the poll...

...In terms of NAME ID, Woo is the leader with 90%, followed by Councilman Nate Holden at 82%, Wachs at 78%, Julian Nava at 57%, Katz at 44% and Richard Riordan at 37%. These figures seem reasonable, but

not so for the others in the race. If Nick Patsaouras (25%), Griego (20%), Sanders (19%) and Houston (18%) - have this kind of name ID, we'd be very surprised...

...In terms of the HORSE RACE (after a short statement was read about each one), Woo was on top with 22%, followed by Wachs at 16%, Nava and Holden at 7%, Katz and Riordan at 6%, Sanders at 5%, Patsaouras and Houston at 1% each, and 29% undecided. Griego was not included in this poll...

...FYI: Griego will be the featured speaker at Women In Public Affairs(WIPA), 11:30 a.m. reception, noon lunch, Jan. 27, L.A. Hilton Hotel. For info/rsvps, contact WIPA chairperson Pilar M. Perry (213)775-3486...

THE POLITICS OF CALIF.'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

Editor's note: Here is CALPEEK's analysis and report of the political impact of Gov. Pete Wilson's State of the State address and his 1993-94 budget proposal...

...It's more than obvious that a great deal of care and preparation went into this year's 1993 State of the State address by Gov. Wilson. As soon as Wilson began his speech, CALPEEK's fax machine began to get 17 pages from his office - his complete speech plus all sorts of backup material to support his case. Politically, it's important that Wilson start off 1993 with as much GOOD press as he can get, to hopefully improve those miserable job performance poll numbers he received in 1992...

...The speech itself has been given fairly good marks for its uplifting message - "setting the stage for the Calif. economic comeback" by creating JOBS and cutting TAXES. Some economists have been negative, saying

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the cuts may stimulate business in the long term, but will create a bigger budget deficit in 1993-94. But compared to his doom & gloom messages in past years, this was a big improvement, and a necessary one as he prepares for his 1994 reelection. In terms of theme and substance, Wilson took a page out of Pres.-elect Bill Clinton's political handbook: it's the economy, stupid. Wilson's message will play especially well with hardline GOPers, with whom he has had a running gun battle since the day he took office. He needs them very much in 1994...

...How will Wilson pay for his plan? That was unveiled a few days later in Wilson's new 1993-94 budget. Politically, insiders think that all the TALK that is currently going on is for posture only and that some serious horse-trading will take place in the months ahead. The \$51.2 billion budget isn't a thing of beauty and major HITS have been aimed at higher education, health, welfare and LOCAL GOVERNMENT...

...Local government first. In last years budget fiasco, cities and counties were at first targeted - but then saved. No such luck this time. They may lose between \$2.6 and \$3.4 billion - depending on how one calculates. Here Wilson could have trouble not only with urban Demos, but with GOP lawmakers as well, who would be very worried about funding of public safety -- read that as fear of CRIME. Politically, the hit on local government could impact the L.A. mayor's race, because voters eyes will be focused on Demo Assemblyman Richard Katz. If the hit actually happens, his campaign for mayor could be flushed...

...As for WELFARE, Wilson's budget calls for a 19% reduction. Some Demos and out-fits which represent the poor are crying foul, saying that voters rejected Wilson's Prop. 165 welfare initiative last year. Sorry, but that doesn't sell. The measure was defeated because of Wilson's power-grab budget proposal that was attached to 165. Had 165 focused on welfare alone, CALPEEK sources say it would have narrowly won...

...Wilson's budget also takes a swing at RENTERS. He proposes to cut the renters tax credit. In the press materials, Wilson's team says the budget was prepared WITHOUT any new taxes. Sorry, but if you cut the renters tax credit, that's the same

thing as a new tax...

...The budget's WEAK POINTS. Wilson wants to let the 1/2 cent sales tax increase put in place in two years ago, expire in June. That would leave a \$1.5 billion gap in the budget. To offset this, Wilson wants the Feds to fork over that same amount in money owed to Calif. for the impact of immigration. As one GOP lawmaker indicated, these two items are the weak links in the Wilson budget because while the Feds may owe the money, in the past they've never paid up. And with outgoing OMB Dir. Dick Darman's January Surprise - add another \$60 billion to the deficit --- it's going to be tough for CA to get this money. If Clinton did come through, CA voters would probably be very grateful in 1996 --- and it would help new U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein in 1994. But don't bet your first born...

...Bottomline: insiders are hopeful that Wilson and the Demo-controlled legislature will be able to work together this year because politically it's in everyone's best interest - especially Wilson's. So far, Pete's conciliatory tone (compared to his political rhetoric of 1992) seems to have helped ease the strained relations he had with Demo Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. On Feb. 16-17 in L.A., we'll see how far Wilson and Brown are willing to go when they stage Calif.'s Economic Summit meeting at the Biltmore Hotel. Stay tuned...

CARD CLUB MADNESS: COMPTON IN UPROAR; WEST HOLLYWOOD TRIES AGAIN; OTHERS ALSO LOOKING. Editor's note: As the BUDGET crunch begins to hit home in 1993, more and more cities may be looking at POKER & CARD CLUBS as a source of revenue. Here's an update...

- WEST HOLLYWOOD - Round 2 began Jan. 4 when the city council on a 4-0 vote placed a measure on the ballot which, if approved, would allow the Cavendish West Hollywood card club to build a new 99-table club on the city's older east side. The proposal to come before voters (no date set) would allow bridge, rummy and pan, but would BAN poker. Most members of the council are still opposed to this idea, but there is a feeling that because WH faces a potential \$400,000 budget shortfall, this plan could pass. In 1990, Measure AA, which would have established a poker club, was crushed

by city voters. QUESTION: will other card clubs throw money in to stop this new plan? They did last time, but this time the plan is very different...

- COMPTON - Unlike West Hollywood where voters will decide the issue, here in late November the council voted 3-0 (Mayor Walter Tucker was absent and Councilwoman Pat Moore abstained) to allow the construction of a \$9 million poker club on an empty 8-acre auto mall, not far from the freeway. This action so angered certain segments of the community that the 3 councilmembers who voted YES are now the subject of a RECALL. They include Omar Bradley, Bernice Woods and Jane Robbins. Recall proponents have until Mar. 31 to turn in the required number of signatures --- about 6,000 to 8,000 are needed. The group pushing the recall is called Citizens for Accountable Government. Will the recall qualify? Sources give it a 50-50 chance. Bottomline: regardless of how the recall comes out, this card club appears to be a done deal...

- IN THE WORKS - As CALPEEK was putting this story together, we discovered that The Rev. Charles Leonard Floyd was in the process of gathering signatures for a card club proposal in the City of Lynwood, a community of some 55,000. Also on our scouting report is the City of Pico Rivera (population 60,000) and the City of Cypress in Orange Co. In Pico Rivera, the prime mover is MWB Development Co., owned by Michael Mackey, a former RTD Board member; Peter Wallin, former Bell Gardens city attorney; and Claude Booker, former Bell Gardens city manager. HOWEVER, it's the City of Cypress that could be the most interesting. The site of a proposed new card club would be LOS ALAMITOS RACE TRACK. Stay tuned...

SPECIAL ELECTION UPDATE: CENTRAL VALLEY.

Editor's note: There are two specials taking place Mar. 2nd in the Central Valley: in the 16th S.D. and the 31st A.D. Here is a brief update on both...

- 16th S.D. - Around Jan. 19-21, sources believe the 9th U.S. Ct. of Appeals in S.F. will rule on whether candidates running in this special shall campaign under the old 1981 district borders or under the new reapportioned borders designed by the CA Sup-

reme Court in 1991. If the court rules in favor of the NEW lines, Demo Assemblyman Jim Costa has an excellent chance to win this seat because the registration is very Democratic. BUT if the court upholds the lower court ruling, then it will be a real slugfest, with the outcome up in the air in this 47.9% Demo vs. 40.2% GOP district. The outcome may depend upon who wins the GOP battle...

...And a battle it will be. Hardline conservatives are lining up behind former GOP Assemblyman Phil Wyman, while the more moderate forces are behind Bakersfield Councilman Kevin McDermott, an ally of U.S. Rep. Bill Thomas. McDermott has hired consultant Mark Abernathy, a veteran Thomas political operative who has been through many GOP battles. Wyman has hired Sacto consultant Steve Presson --- in place of his long time consultant Chris Nelson...

...Wyman's got support from the previous occupant, State Sen. Don Rogers; GOP Assemblyman Trice Harvey; and from L.A. Co. Sup. Mike Antonovich; plus lots of his former GOP buddies from the Assembly. Aside from Thomas, McDermott has not announced any endorsements, but it's anticipated that he will have backing from locally elected officials...

...What's of interest here is Trice Harvey. At one time Harvey and Thomas were allies, but that began to change during the reapportionment process. Thomas thought Harvey was trying to get himself a congressional seat in the area at his expense and the relationship soured. In 1992, Thomas backed Ken Peterson for county supervisor against incumbent Kern County Sup. Carl Hettinger, who was Harvey's chief deputy when Harvey was supervisor. In a rather bitter race, Peterson won. So in a way, Harvey's support for Wyman is also PAYBACK time to get even with Thomas...

...As far as Costa is concerned, he'd much rather face Wyman than McDermott - on the theory it would be easier to go after Wyman and his hardline record in the assembly. Costa has hired consultant Larry Sheingold of Sacto. Costa may get his wish because Wyman has good name ID in the 16th S.D. and represented about 60% of the area...

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• 31st A.D. - In this very heavy Demo registration district, the GOP has talked Fresno Co. Sup. Doug Vagim into running. He's a 2-term, moderate who has about \$35,000 in his warchest. It would be an uphill fight, but some think Vagim has a shot against Cruz Bustemonte, chief aide to retired Assemblyman Bruce Bronzan. The Demo Assembly leadership is behind Bustemonte. Stay tuned...

FRESNO CITY ELECTIONS: INCUMBENTS BOW OUT.

Editor's note: Calif.'s 9th largest city holds its primary on Mar. 2. Here is a brief report on some of the key contests in this city of 310,000...

...In 1990, 3 incumbent councilmembers were defeated for reelection in Fresno. This year, 3 more incumbents were to face the voters, but they decided NOT to run. So there are now some 20 candidates running for the 3 open seats. The only incumbent who decided to seek another term is Mayor Karen Humphrey. Four years ago she defeated attorney Tony Capozzi without a runoff. But in 1993 Humphrey must face 14 challengers and so the prospects of a May 4 runoff look fairly certain. In fact, some sources think Humphrey is in trouble...

...Of the 14 rivals, CALPEEK sources in Fresno say only two are considered serious challengers: Fresno Councilman Brian Setencich; and broadcast exec. Jim Patterson. Setencich came out of nowhere to win a city council job two years ago and has a reputation for voting "NO" on just about everything - thus he's Dr. NO of Fresno. Patterson owns a Christian radio station and is PRO-life, but sources in Fresno say he's not part of the religious right. He is described as a very thoughtful conservative. Patterson has hired consultant Dalton Moore, who has run Demo U.S. Rep. Richard Lehman's campaign for the past several years. Humphrey has again retained Townsend, Hermocillo et al of Sacto...

...The KEY issue in Fresno is CRIME. The city had a record number of murders last year and there is the preception that crime is out of control...

...In addition to a TERM LIMIT local ballot measure, Fresno voters also will have to contend with Charter Section 809, which sets police and firefighter salaries to an

average of 8 other cities. Proponents want to ELIMINATE this law. Oddly enough, Patterson is on the YES side, but his campaign manager, Dalton Moore, is managing the NO side...

...Another hot issue is Measure F - called the Arts to Zoo Measure. If approved, this proposal would set up an assessment district within the entire city of Fresno (plus some of the county) and would hike sales tax by 1/10th cent to fund museums, the zoo, the philharmonic, etc. It's estimated this district would raise about \$5 million per year. Townsend, Hermocillo et al are running the YES on F campaign. Pollster Jim Moore is polling on F, as well as in the mayor's race for Humphrey. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

• Jane Hasler Henick of L.A., long-time political activist, has been elected NWPC Calif. president for the 1993-95 term. Also elected to the NWPC CA board was Susan Romeo, vp of communications...

• Former KNBC-TV political reporter Linda Douglass has landed a job in Washington D.C. with CBS-TV News...

• Campaign consultant Tom Shortridge has opened his own firm, Bear Republic Political Services, P.O. Box 2006, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 - (310)318-0099. Shortridge is running campaigns for Rudy Svorinich in L.A.'s 15th council district and for Jerry Goddard for city atty. in Redondo Beach...

• The Dolphin Group moves to 10866 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 550, L.A. 90024. New phone is (310)446-4800...

• The Calif. Group moves from Sonoma to Sacto. New address is 1121 "L" St., Ste. 501, Sacto 95814. New phone is (916)552-6455...

• Campaign consultant Jill Barad moves to 15233 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 230, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. Same phone (818)906-0960. Barad also signs CARAL as a fundraising and PR client...